

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

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R 230748Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3823
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
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C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 1476

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, LY, US

SUBJ: QADHAFI ON U.S. RELATIONS

REF: TRIPOLI 1404

1. DURING RECENT INTERVIEW WITH ITALIAN "LA STAMPA"
(FBIS 211323Z NOV 76) COL. QADHAFI CRITICIZED U.S.
"AGGRESSIVE ATTITUDE" TOWARDS LIBYA, BUT EXPRESSED HOPE
THAT PRESIDENT-ELECT JIMMY CARTER BEING "A VERY RELIGIOUS
MAN, AND THEREFORE IT IS REASONABLE TO THINK THAT HE
MIGHT DO SOME GOOD." COMMENT: QADHAFI'S HOPE THAT
PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER'S NEW ADMINISTRATION "WILL DO
SOME GOOD" IS REITERATION OF OFT STATED LIBYAN DESIRE TO
IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH U.S. WE UNDERSTAND QADHAFI
RECENTLY APPOINTED A FORMER LIBYAN DIPLOMAT RAJAB BUBAKER
SASSI AS HIS NEW POLITICAL ADVISOR AND ENTRUSTED HIM
WITH HIS FIRST TASK OF OBTAINING AS MUCH INFORMATION
AS POSSIBLE ABOUT PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER. QADHAFI'S
APPARENT INTEREST IN NEW ADMINISTRATION WAS
EMPHATICALLY EXPRESSED IN CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE
TO PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER.

2. LIBYAN INTENTIONS IN THIS REGARD WERE ALSO
EXPRESSED BY ASU SECRETARY GENERAL FOR ARAB AFFAIRS
AHMED SHAHATI DURING NOV 22 SESSION OF PEOPLE'S GENERAL
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CONGRESS. SHAHATI SATED THAT DESPITE U.S. SUPPORT

AND ARMS SHIPMENTS TO ISRAEL, LIBYA WOULD CONTINUE
TO PURSUE ITS GOAL OF EXPLAINING LIBYAN POLICIES TO
AMERICAN PEOPLE. SHAHATI CLAIMED LIBYA HAD NO ARGUMENT
WITH AMERICAN PEOPLE AND IN ORDER TO EXPLAIN ITS
POLICIES, LIBYA PLANS AN AMERICAN-AFRICAN (LIBYAN)
CONFERENCE NEXT YEAR SIMILAR TO ISLAMIC-CHRISTIAN
CONFERENCE LAST FEBRUARY. SHAHATI ALSO STATED THAT
LIBYA PLANNED A JEWISH-ARAB CONFERENCE FOR A DIALOGUE WITH
JEWS WHO DID NOT SUPPORT ZIONISM. NO DATES WERE GIVEN
FOR THESE CONFERENCES.
CARLE

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